

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8776

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 BONN 07988

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, YO, GW

SUBJECT: FRG-YUGOSLAVIA CSCE CONSULTATIONS

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE GERMANS AND YUGOSLAVS HAD TEN HOURS OF BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON CSCE IN BONN LAST WEEK. THE YUGOSLAVS WERE INTERESTED IN OBTAINING FRG VIEWS ON THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE. THE YUGOSLAVS WERE RELUCTANT TO EXPRESS THEIR OWN VIEWS ON THE CONFERENCE, BUT MADE CLEAR THAT A POLEMIC EXCHANGE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST SHOULD BE AVOIDED. THE YUGOSLAVS ARE EXPECTED TO SEEK FURTHER BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH WESTERN CSCE STATES TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE. END SUMMARY.

1. FOREIGN OFFICE CSCE OFFICE DIRECTOR VON GROLL HAS BRIEFED AN EMBASSY OFFICER ON THE BILATERAL CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN THE FRG AND YUGOSLAVIA HELD IN BONN ON MAY 6-7. VON GROLL MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS IN THE BRIEFING.

2. AMBASSADOR PESIC LED THE YUGOSLAV DELEGATION. PESIC
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IS THE SPECIAL COORDINATOR FOR NEXT YEAR'S BELGRADE

MEETING AND HAS SERVED PREVIOUSLY AS AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW AND PARIS. THESE CONSULTATIONS REPRESENTED THE FIRST TIME THE YUGOSLAVS HAD MET WITH A WESTERN (AS OPPOSED TO A NEUTRAL) CSCE PARTICIPANT TO DISCUSS THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE.

3. THE YUGOSLAVS DID NOT ATTEMPT TO IMPOSE THEIR VIEWS ON THE GERMANS. INSTEAD, THEY WERE MORE INTERESTED IN SOUNDING OUT THE GERMANS ON WHAT THE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE SHOULD BE LIKE. THEY FIRST SOUGHT REASSURANCE THAT THE JUNE 15 DATE FOR THE CONFERENCE COULD NOT BE QUESTIONED. THE GERMANS PROVIDED APPROPRIATE ASSURANCES. BOTH DELEGATIONS AGREED THAT THE PRINCIPAL MEETING FOLLOWING BELGRADE MUST START IN 1977 BUT NOT NECESSARILY FINISH IN THAT YEAR.

4. THE YUGOSLAVS DID NOT ADVANCE ANY OF THEIR OWN IDEAS REGARDING THE BELGRADE AGENDA. HOWEVER, A TENTATIVE AGENDA WHICH APPEARED REASONABLE TO BOTH SIDES WAS AS FOLLOWS:

A. AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON IMPLEMENTATION. THIS WOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN A PLENARY SESSION BY FOREIGN MINISTERS' REPRESENTATIVES.

B. MORE DETAILED DISCUSSIONS OF EACH BASKET. THE DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE CARRIED OUT BY COMMITTEES, ALTHOUGH THE YUGOSLAVS MADE CLEAR THAT THE COMMITTEE IDEA WAS NOT THEIRS.

C. DISCUSSION OF THE MODALITIES FOR FUTURE COOPERATION FOLLOWING THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE.

5. BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT ONE PURPOSE OF THE JUNE '77 MEETING SHOULD BE TO WORK OUT GUIDELINES WHICH VARIOUS

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WORKING GROUPS WOULD CARRY OUT DURING THE FOREIGN MINISTERS' REPRESENTATIVES MEETING. THE COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED UNDER AGENDA ITEM B WOULD ALSO REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS TAKEN, I.E., LAWS CHANGED, FEES LOWERED, ETC., AND CONSIDER ANY NEW PROPOSALS IN ADDITION TO THOSE ITEMS ALREADY SPECIFIED IN THE FINAL ACT. THE GERMANS BELIEVE THAT THE YUGOSLAVS PLAN TO INTRODUCE NEW PROPOSALS AT BELGRADE, BUT THE VISITORS WERE CAREFUL NOT TO TIP THEIR HAND.

6. THE DELEGATIONS DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC POINTS:

BASKET I

THERE WAS NO DIFFERENCE OF VIEW REGARDING THE PRINCIPLES DECLARATION, WITH THE YUGOSLAVS MAKING IT VERY CLEAR THAT THEY WANTED TO AVOID A POLEMIC EXCHANGE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST AT BELGRADE.

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BASKET II

THE YUGOSLAV ATTITUDE REGARDING THE BREZHNEV PROPOSALS FOR CONFERENCES ON ENERGY, TRANSPORTATION, AND THE ENVIRONMENT COINCIDED WITH THE WESTERN VIEW. THE GERMANS INFORMED THE YUGOSLAVS THAT THE SUBJECT OF THE ENVIRONMENT WAS OF GREAT INTEREST TO THEM, BUT THEY QUESTIONED THE DESIRABILITY OF ANOTHER LARGE-SCALE CONFERENCE. THE GERMANS EMPHASIZED THAT, IN GENERAL, ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS WERE REGIONAL IN NATURE. HOWEVER, OF ALL THE BREZHNEV PROPOSALS, THE GERMANS

ALLOWED THAT A CONFERENCE ON THE ENVIRONMENT HAD THE BEST PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESS.

THE GERMANS STATED THAT THE PRINCIPAL WESTERN INTEREST WAS TO IMPROVE BUSINESS CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. THEY RECITED SPECIFIC PROBLEMS WITH THE YUGOSLAVS AND ASKED FOR RECONSIDERATION OF PERTINENT LEGISLATION. THE YUGOSLAVS RESPONDED THAT THEY HAD RECENTLY REVIEWED THIS QUESTION WITH A VIEW TO TAKING POSITIVE ACTION, BUT THAT IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO EFFECT ANY CHANGES BEFORE BELGRADE.

BASKET III

THERE WAS NO PROBLEM WITH BASKET III ISSUES, SINCE THINGS WERE WORKING SMOOTHLY BETWEEN THE FRG AND YUGOSLAVIA. FOR EXAMPLE, VISITORS' VISAS ARE NOT REQUIRED AND APPROXIMATELY 300,000 YUGOSLAV GUEST WORKERS RESIDE IN THE FRG. THE GERMANS PERCEIVED THAT THE YUGOSLAVS MIGHT WISH TO MAKE NEW PROPOSALS ON BASKET III ITEMS, I.E., CULTURAL EXCHANGES, IN BELGRADE WHICH MIGHT LEAD TO AN INDIRECT INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THIS BASKET. THE FRG TRIED TO MAKE CLEAR THAT, IN THE GERMAN VIEW, THIS WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL.

ON THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, THE YUGOSLAVS INDICATED THAT AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN HAD SEEN PESIC TO EXPRESS US DISPLEASURE WITH THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION RESOLUTION ON CSCE. PESIC SAID HE EXPLAINED THAT DECISIONS ON RESOLUTIONS OF THIS NATURE WERE CONFIDENTIAL

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REACHED BY MAJORITY VOTE IN UN FORA. HOWEVER, THE YUGOSLAVS HAD NO INTEREST IN HAVING THE FINAL ACT

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REINTERPRETED.

CBM'S

THE GERMANS EXPRESSED THEIR INTEREST IN FURTHERING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CBM'S. THE GERMANS BELIEVE THE YUGOSLAVS WILL WANT TO SAY SOMETHING ABOUT MILITARY MOVEMENTS AT BELGRADE.

MEDITERRANEAN DECLARATION

THE GERMANS PRESSED THE YUGOSLAVS FOR INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT THEY HAD HEARD FROM MEDITERRANEAN BASIN COUNTRIES REGARDING THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, THE YUGOSLAVS RESPONDED IN GENERALITIES, NOTING THAT CSCE WAS ON THE AGENDA OF THE NON-ALIGNED MEETING TO BE HELD IN COLOMBO IN AUGUST. ACCORDINGLY, THE YUGOSLAVS WERE RELUCTANT TO PRONOUNCE THEMSELVES ON THE SUBJECT AT THIS TIME.

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7. THE YUGOSLAVS INFORMED THE GERMANS THAT THEY PERCEIVED THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL, THOROUGH BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON ALL QUESTIONS CONNECTED WITH THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE. THUS, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS IN BONN WERE A PRELUDE TO DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER WESTERN STATES.

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